

Application No. 10/075,404
Response to the Office Action Mailed February 3, 2005
Amendment dated August 2, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims I-22 cancelled

Claim 23 (previously presented): In a capillary electrophoresis method in which analyte species are separated by differential electrophoretic migration through a fluid separation medium under the influence of a run field, an improvement for reducing peak broadening caused when the run field is established comprising:

establishing the run field at a ramp rate no greater than about 5 V/cm-s;
wherein the fluid separation medium is a buffered solution containing a non-crosslinked polymer.

Claim 24 (previously presented): In a capillary electrophoresis method in which analyte species are separated by differential electrophoretic migration through a fluid separation medium under the influence of a run field, an improvement for reducing peak broadening caused when the run field is established comprising:

establishing the run field at a ramp rate no greater than about 5 V/cm-s;
wherein the analyte species are nucleic acid.

Claim 25 (new): The method of claim 23, wherein the run field ranges from about 50 V/cm to about 3,000 V/cm.

Claim 26 (new): The method of claim 23, wherein the run field ranges between about 80 V/cm and 500 V/cm.

Application No. 10/075,404
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Amendment dated August 2, 2005

Claim 27 (new): The method of claim 23, wherein the run field is established over a period of at least about 10 seconds.

Claim 28 (new): The method of claim 23, wherein the run field is established over a period ranging from about 20 seconds to about 4,000 seconds.

Claim 29 (new): The method of claim 23, wherein the ramp rate ranges from about 0.1 V/cm-s to about 1.0 V/cm-s.

Claim 30 (new): The method of claim 23, wherein peak broadening associated with establishment of a run field is reduced at least about 10% compared to that found when an electric ramp is not used.

Claim 31 (new): The method of claim 30, wherein peak broadening is reduced at least about 25%.

Claim 32 (new): The method of claim 31, wherein peak broadening is reduced at least about 40%.

Claim 33 (new): The method of claim 24, wherein the run field ranges from about 50 V/cm to about 3,000 V/cm.

Claim 34 (new): The method of claim 24, wherein the run field ranges between about 80 V/cm and 500 V/cm.

Claim 35 (new): The method of claim 24, wherein the run field is established over a period of at least about 10 seconds.

Application No. 10/075,404
Response to the Office Action Mailed February 3, 2005
Amendment dated August 2, 2005

Claim 36 (new): The method of claim 24, wherein the run field is established over a period ranging from about 20 seconds to about 4,000 seconds.

Claim 37 (new): The method of claim 24, wherein the ramp rate ranges from about 0.1 V/cm-s to about 1.0 V/cm-s.

Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 24, wherein peak broadening associated with establishment of a run field is reduced at least about 10% compared to that found when an electric ramp is not used.

Claim 39 (new): The method of claim 38, wherein peak broadening is reduced at least about 25%.

Claim 40 (new): The method of claim 39, wherein peak broadening is reduced at least about 40%.